



# County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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WILLIAM T FUJIOKA  
Chief Executive Officer

May 24, 2012

To: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman  
Supervisor Gloria Molina  
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas  
Supervisor Don Knabe  
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: William T Fujioka  
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Supervisors  
GLORIA MOLINA  
First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS  
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY  
Third District

DON KNABE  
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH  
Fifth District

## JAIL WORK PLAN: FORTHCOMING RECOMMENDATIONS

On January 24, 2012, the Board directed the Chief Executive Office (CEO), Sheriff's Department (Sheriff), and the Department of Public Works (Public Works) to develop a comprehensive work plan (Work Plan) aimed at ensuring that future capital plans at the County's jail facilities:

- Increase efficiencies in the management of the County's jail population through the implementation of programmatic alternatives to incarceration in the County's detention facilities;
- Reflect contracting alternatives with independent detention facility operators; and
- Accommodate the addition of State inmates to the County's jail system being realized under the State's 2011 Public Safety Realignment Program (AB 109).

The ultimate goal of the Work Plan is to stabilize the County's inmate population at a more manageable level and reduce the cost of addressing the issue of Men's Central Jail's growing obsolescence and structural shortcomings. To meet this goal and the objectives specified in the Board's directive, the Work Plan will incorporate the following elements:

- Policy and program recommendations from the VERA Institute, American Civil Liberties Union, Dr. James Austin, and the Los Angeles Citizen's Commission on Jail Violence;

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- Programmatic alternatives to incarceration that would reduce the County's jail population, including validation of the Sheriff's inmate classification system and Probation's pre-trial risk assessment tool, pre-trial release or early disposition programs, and post sentence diversion or conditional release programs that are managed by Community Based Organizations (CBOs);
- Capital options that accommodate adopted policy recommendations and appropriately align facility capacities with projected inmate populations and classifications, with a priority given to high-security, female, and medical/mental health inmate populations; and
- Alternative incarceration models that offer housing relief for County jail facilities, including, but not limited to, Public/Private Partnerships (P3), Community Correctional Facilities (CCFs), and County Fire Camps.

We will return to the Board with recommendations for the selection of a consultant to assist in the analysis and development of the programmatic alternatives to incarceration within two months. It is anticipated that programmatic alternatives will require six to eight months to develop and to have their feasibility determined. Concurrently, a full assessment of the physical condition and configuration of the County's jail facilities will be conducted to determine their remaining useful lives and level of compatibility with the programmatic alternatives.

The results of the alternatives analysis and facility assessments will be combined with actual data on the ongoing infusion of State AB 109 inmates to project the size and composition of the County's jail population over the next ten years and thus determine the type and number of inmate beds the County's jail system will require. This determination will, in turn, provide the basis for the capital options for the County's detention facilities that will be presented to the Board for consideration in approximately one year.

### **Recommended Interim Actions**

During the year of development for the programmatic alternatives and capital options, we anticipate the County's jail system population to increase by nearly 1,900 inmates to an aggregate total of over 19,000. In order to accommodate the increasing inmate population while long-term program solutions are under development, the following interim actions are underway or will be recommended in the near future.

- Negotiations have been initiated by the Sheriff with four CCFs, which could provide up to 2,024 beds for sentenced male inmates in good health. If successful, the Sheriff will present a Memorandum of Understanding for each of the participating CCFs to the Board for approval.
- The Sheriff and my office are also in discussions with the Fire District and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) to secure space in the District's fire camps for approximately 500 qualified male and female County inmates who will be trained and utilized as firefighters and support personnel. Once an agreement is reached, it will be presented to the Board for approval.
- Acceptance of the \$100.0 million AB 900 grant that was awarded to the County in March 2012 for the construction of female inmate housing at the Pitchess Detention Center will be presented to the Board for approval on June 6, 2012.

The AB 900 grant will offset 51.4 percent of the \$194.7 million project, which will provide 1,156 new medium security beds for female inmates. The grant's guidelines require the County's acceptance of the grant, commitment of the project site to the State (as collateral for the State issued bonds that will fund the grant), and initiate the environmental review required under the California Environmental Quality Act by June 15, 2012. The environmental impact report (EIR) will require one year to complete.

Prior to the Board's certification of the EIR, and the Board's award of a design-build agreement for the female housing project at Pitchess Detention Center, capital options for other detention facilities will be presented to the Board.

Pending a comprehensive recommendation for multiple detention facilities, the interim actions identified above could add up to 3,680 beds for male and female inmates over the next three years, which will greatly enhance the County's ability to absorb the projected increase in its inmate population.

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A detailed description and justification for the recommended Work Plan will be presented to the Board for consideration on June 6, 2012. Should your staff have any questions regarding this matter, please direct them to Jan Takata, at (213) 974-1360.

WTF:RLR  
DJT:zu

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors  
County Counsel  
Sheriff  
Public Works